

COLAS

Cost-Of-Living-Adjustments

THE FY 2023 BUDGET INCLUDES \$5,000 COLAS FOR MOST STATE EMPLOYEES. WHO ELSE IS ELIGIBLE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS?

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023, THE FOLLOWING COUNTY OFFICIALS MAY BE REQUIRED* TO RECEIVE THE \$5,000 COLA, PAID WITH COUNTY FUNDS:

- COUNTY COMMISSIONERS O.C.G.A. 36-5-28
- SHERIFFS O.C.G.A. 15-16-20
- SUPERIOR COURT CLERKS O.C.G.A. 15-6-88
- PROBATE JUDGES O.C.G.A. 15-9-63
- TAX COMMISSIONERS O.C.G.A. 48-5-183
- MAGISTRATE JUDGES O.C.G.A. 15-9-63.1
- CORONERS IN COUNTIES WITH POPULATIONS LESS THAN 35,000

AS OF THE 2020 CENSUS, 106 OF GEORGIA'S 159 COUNTIES HAVE A POPULATION BELOW 35,000

O.C.G.A. 45-16-11

*COMPENSATION FOR SOME COUNTY POSITIONS MAY BE SET THROUGH LOCAL LEGISLATIVE ACTS. CONSULT WITH THE COUNTY'S ATTORNEY FOR CLARIFICATION ON INDIVIDUAL COUNTIES.

THE FY 2023 BUDGET ALLOCATES STATE FUNDS TO PAY COLAS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARDS; SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES; DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; AND STATE-PAID POSITIONS IN DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICES, PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICES, HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, AND LIBRARY SYSTEMS.

FOR POSITIONS THAT HAVE COMPENSATION TIED TO OTHER COUNTY OFFICIALS THROUGH LOCAL LEGISLATION, THE COLA COULD IMPACT THEIR PAY AS WELL. FOR EXAMPLE, MANY STATE COURT JUDGES' SALARIES ARE SET BY LOCAL ACT AT 90% OF THE SALARY OF THE COUNTY'S SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE.

ADDITIONALLY, THE FY 2023 BUDGET PROVIDED \$5,000 INCENTIVE-BASED GRANTS FOR JUVENILE COURT JUDGE SALARIES WITH BACKLOGS OF LESS THAN 180 DAYS.

***** LOCAL LAWS IN EACH COUNTY IMPACT WHO RECEIVES COLAS OR RELATED INCREASES. CONSULT THE LOCAL COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION RELATED TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTIES. *****